

Appln. No. 09/744,654
Amd. dated May 16, 2205
Reply to Office Action of November 29, 2004

REMARKS

The Office Action and the cited and applied references have been carefully reviewed. No claim is allowed. Claims 123-126 and 128-131 presently appear in this application and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are hereby respectfully solicited.

Claims 123-124 and 128-129 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This rejection is believed to be obviated by the amendment to the claims.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 123-126 and 128-131 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanz et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,541,103, in view of Mohle et al., *Blood* 91(12):4523-4530 (1998). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Attached hereto is an executed 1.132 declaration which establishes and further explains in detail the unexpected and surprising results presented in Example 3 and 4 of the present specification. In addition, this declaration also discusses the disclosures and teachings of the cited and applied Kanz and Mohle references as well as explains the differences between Kanz and

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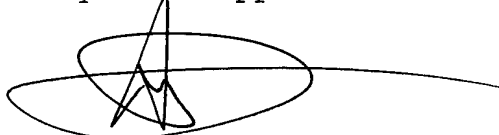
the presently claimed method and why Kanz and Mohle cannot lead one of ordinary skill in the art to the present invention.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. §112 and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Favorable consideration and early allowance are earnestly urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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